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hardly less marked than that which separated Hermann from the old four volume Handwörterbuch of Wagner in 1846. While this work owes as all must very much to Hermann, it is a striking reminder of the great progress which physiology has made in the last two decades. Foster's first edition marked an epoch in physiology in English speaking lands, and was a marvel of individual industry and ability, but the field has distinctly outgrown the ken of any one representative, and henceforth every adequate presentation of what is embraced under the term physiology must be co-operative.

By this method the authors are enabled to present in precise form the contents of many hundreds of original papers which are referred to in the notes, so that for general purposes the necessity of referring to first sources is superseded, while for those who need to do so this work is facilitated. The enormous literary work involved in such a book is one of its striking features. The volumes are well supplied with indexes, the first volume having seventy-two and the second one hundred and four pages, while there are five hundred and forty-one cuts and many tables.

Psychologists will be especially pleased with the chapters on nerve, by Gotch; on the nerve cell and the cortex, by Schäfer; on cutaneous sensations and muscle sense, by Sherrington; on vision, by Rivers; the ear and vocal sounds, by M'Kendrick and Gray; and on the senses of taste and smell, by Haycraft. In most cases these later writers have well availed themselves of the experimental work of psychologists who, if they often find that articles they would like to see considered, have not been noticed as sometimes occurs, will not be too critical with a gift horse. Every working psychologist will need this book at hand until it is superseded by a better.

It is easy to criticise, but we cannot forbear expressing our regret that the subjects of generation and reproduction, as well as the physiology of the cell generally considered in such treatises, have been omitted, partly because the subjects involve morphological methods, and partly because they are so important that they would swell the size of the volumes unduly.

*Diffusion of the Motor Impulse.* WISSLER AND RICHARDSON. *Psy. Rev.*, Jan., 1900. pp. 29-38.

In this paper experiments on arm muscles are described, having for their object the determination of the order of secondary contractions when the *abductor indices* and the biceps are respectively exercised by a series of movements. By means of tambours and kymograph, records of muscular contractions of two young men were obtained which show that when the motor discharge is directed to an extreme accessory muscle of the arm, diffusion is primarily to the muscle directly innervated and secondarily to adjacent related muscles in the order of their distance anatomically from the muscle innervated. The experiments also show diffusion to be downward as well as upward, and lead to interesting hypotheses respecting "cross education."

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*Effets du travail de certains groupes musculaires sur d'autres groupes qui ne font aucun travail.* KRONECKER AND CUTTER. *Comptes Rendus*, T. CXXXI, No 10 (3 Sept., 1900). p. 492.

This communication reports the results of experiments to determine the effects on the power of the biceps group of muscles of exercising the lower limbs in mountain climbing. The tests made after climbs requiring varying time and exertion clearly indicated in all cases gains in power in biceps muscles. The writers express the opinion that the effect is due to increase of circulation of blood or lymph.

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